Celebration of 2007 as Water Year

†2405. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to celebrate year 2007 as Water Year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the priorities of Government in the above said year;

(c) whether in the proposed Water Year Government will also give priority to the disposal of water disputes besides water management and conservation; and

(d) if so, the details of water disputes pending with Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has declared the Year-2007 as "Water Year" with the focus on:

(i) developing consensus on appropriate measures including legislation on better management of the water sector including participatory irrigation management, regulated use and conservation;

(ii) timely completion of irrigation projects and maintenance of existing projects to ensure water availability to farmers;

(iii) awareness programmes for the masses;

(iv) Organization of conferences, workshops on important development and management issues.

Various programmes and activities are being undertaken by the Ministry of Water Resources and its organizations for celebrating Water Year-2007.

(c) and (d) The mechanism for settlement of water dispute is already available in the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 as modified from time to time; and disputes are settled in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The details of the present Inter-State River water disputes under ISRWD Act, 1956 are as follows:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

SI. No.	River/Rivers	States concerned
1.	Ravi & Beas	Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan
2.	Cauvery	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry
3.	Krishna	Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra
4.	Madei/Mondovi/Mahadayi	Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra
5.	Vansadhara	Andhra Pradesh & Orissa

Baghlihar Hydel Project

2406. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank appointed arbitrator has finally given the award on Baghlihar Hydel Dam Project in India's favour;

(b) whether Government are all set to resume the work on the Baghlihar , Hydel Project;

(c) whether the project will be ready for power generation by end of 2007; and

(d) whether restriction on the height of the dam as imposed in the verdict will curtail the projected power generation capacity of 450 mw?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Neutral Expert appointed by the World Bank has given his Expert Determination on 12.02.2007. The Expert Determination upholds India's design in respect of design flood, gated spillways, size and level of sluice spillways, It provides for marginal changes in values of freeboard, pondage and level of intake adopted by India in its design. Significantly, it provides for India to resort to drawing down of reservoir for its maintenance & sustainability during monsoon each year, which will enable sediment management and sustainability of the project.